



GRYFFE HIGH SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Mr Kevin Christie



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Gryffe High School, Level 1, 2020-2023

Monday 9th August 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you in my new role as Head Teacher to relay key information for the new term, beginning on Monday 16th August. Firstly, I hope you and your families have enjoyed a safe and relaxing break, the beautiful weather in Scotland has certainly helped make the summer as enjoyable as could be under the circumstances.

In the coming session, our focus will be on supporting the wellbeing of our young people, and positive relationships between pupils, staff and parents/carers will be at the heart of everything we do. We will continue to improve attainment and achievement for all our pupils, and through collaboration with young people and parents/carers we will achieve the best possible outcomes for all. Our staff are looking forward to welcoming young people back into school and we will do so safely, adhering to current Scottish Government guidance and legislation (see information on next page). It is within this framework that we will look to re-establish our comprehensive extra-curricular programme and offering something for everyone is a key priority. We strongly encourage young people to get involved in the wider life of the school, it helps them grow and develop as confident individuals and their citizenship contributions are highly valued within the local community.

Our sense of belonging to Gryffe High School is enhanced through wearing school uniform, and I am looking forward to all of our young people wearing full school uniform - including blazers - next week. Punctuality also shows that our young people are motivated to learn, and we promote good timekeeping as a matter of course.

It is an exciting time for us all as we return to school with hope and anticipation for a successful year ahead. I am particularly looking forward to connecting with you all over the coming weeks and months. In the meantime, please familiarise yourself with the information on the next page. I hope you and your children enjoy the final week of the school summer break.

New S1 Pupils

To all of our parents/carers of new S1 pupils, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our school community. On the first day of term, new S1 pupils should arrive at the ramp leading to the main entrance in front of the school from 8:30am onwards, where they will be greeted by S6 pupils and led to the appropriate classroom for orientation with Principal Teachers of Guidance. Pupils will be issued with timetables and other relevant information during this first day registration period. Parents/carers of new S1 pupils will receive a mailshot later this week with documents that should be completed and returned to the school office at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Christie
Head Teacher

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Key Information for Parents/Carers of young people in Gryffe High School

- All staff and secondary pupils are strongly encouraged to restart twice weekly at-home-LFD testing from Monday 9th August, ideally taking a test in the morning before the first day at school or the evening before. If you need more tests kits or you didn't get a test kit pack, you can order them for home delivery, or pick them up at your nearest test site or pharmacy. You can [find more information on local testing options](#) on the council website.
- All eligible young people should wear face coverings when in school and should maintain effective hygiene practices, including washing hands regularly and using the hand sanitiser provided upon entering and leaving the school building.
- Our one-way systems for moving around the school, and our diligent approach to physical distancing between young people and staff will continue (same as prior to summer break).
- Although there is no requirement for strict physical distancing between young people, we will encourage young people to maintain physical distance where possible.
- Young people using school transport should continue to wear face coverings when using the school bus/taxi.
- Enhanced environmental cleaning practices will continue, with dedicated cleaners working daily on sanitising commonly touched contact surfaces throughout the day.
- Ventilation will continue to be a priority, with windows and doors being left open where possible.

The list above is not exhaustive, rather it is designed to give parents/carers confidence that we will continue to be vigilant in our approach to ensuring that our school and community is as safe as it can possibly be. Should you wish to read more detailed guidance, I would encourage you to view the Scottish Government Coronavirus guidance on reducing the risks in schools, which can be accessed using the link below.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance on reducing the risks in schools - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultation-papers/coronavirus-guidance-reducing-risks-schools/)

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